

Open Lunch

January 14, 2013





Current Structure for Lunch

- Current lunch time varies from 22 -30 minutes (not including passing time)
- 9th – 12th grade students at Douglass and 10th – 12th graders at HHS and RBHS have the option of leaving campus during lunch
 - HHS has 3 lunch sections with 600-700 students per section
 - RBHS has 2 lunch sections with 800-900 students



Need

- Opening a new high school and transitioning to a new grade configuration causes an evolving examination of practices and policies
- Incoming 9th and 10th graders have not had open lunch
- Ongoing concerns about safety and supervision of off campus activity
- Focus on the primary purpose of academics
- Need for consistency across the district



Decision Making Process

- Committee
 - Nutrition Services
 - High School Principals
 - Asst. Superintendent of Secondary Education
- Met monthly from September through December, 2012

In December, the committee reviewed survey results, facility options, food choices and nutritional guidelines and reached a consensus on open lunch

Input

- Survey of students (550 responses), parents, and community (950 responses)
- Student Leadership Groups
- High School Principals
- Nutrition Services – expanding food choices through outside vendors





Student Feedback

- 65% of survey respondents indicate that they eat on campus (some leave and bring food back to campus)
- 81% of students believe lunch should be open for all 9th -12th graders
- 28% of students believe open lunch should be an earned privilege
- 40% said food choices influence their decision to eat school food
- 44% said time influences their decision to eat school food



Parent Feedback

- 71% were concerned for their child getting back to school on time after leaving campus for lunch
- 74% said traffic safety is the biggest concern for off campus lunch
- 64% said do not open lunch for all students
- 35% said 11th and 12th grade should have the privilege of open lunch and 20% indicated 12th grade only
- 60% of parents said open lunch should be an earned privilege



Decision

- 9th and 10th grade students will remain on campus during lunch
- 11th and 12th grade students will have the option of leaving campus during lunch



Implementation

- Offer food from vendors (e.g. pizza) that meets federal nutritional guidelines
- Add locations for serving food
- Communicate with parents, students, and community
- Monitor open lunch
- Continue an ongoing review of practices